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"Hebrews" turned away from this world "and absorbed themselves in the conception of a life beyond the grave" (has the man ever seen the Old Testament?); "the entire work [of all social institutions] may be summed up as compressing all children into the stunted, deforming moulds of their inferior parents"; "Christianity formed itself into a steel sphere about mankind"; "Systematically killing out the starved, stunted, weak, diseased and degenerated, painlessly of course, would therefore be a great moral advance beyond the present flats of human civilization"; we can be saved only by using "spontaneous variations" and cultivating "mutants."

If the author regards himself as a typical man, no wonder he thinks that the intelligent have been killed off! But if he desires the weak and decadent to be slaughtered—but we must not be personal!

T. P. B.

THE PLACE OF AGRICULTURE IN RECONSTRUCTION. A Study of National Programs of Land Settlement. By James B. Morman, A. M., Assistant Secretary of the Federal Farm Loan Board. New York: E. P. Dutton & Co. 1919. Pp. vii, 374.

"With the idea of formulating a practical program of land settlements in the United States for discharged soldiers, sailors and marines, the author has collected and laid before his reader in detail the solutions to the problem which have been tried or are now being tried in foreign countries, notably Great Britain, France and Canada.

"Analyzing and applying to American circumstances the experiences gained by other peoples, he endeavors to point out certain definite conditions which will make for success, as well as to draw attention to others, already proposed, which can do nothing but result in failure.

"The part that agriculture plays in maintaining national welfare has been discussed, and incidentally the foundations of a stable progressive national policy towards agriculture have been intimated.

"In fact, Mr. Morman offers us here a singularly valuable book, compounded of accurate information, sensible reasoning and a democratic spirit of helpfulness."

This account of the book, furnished by the publishers, gives a good idea of its contents and value.

T. P. B.

THE MAYA INDIANS OF SOUTHERN YUCATAN AND NORTHERN BRITISH HONDURAS. By Thomas W. F. Gann.—ARCHEOLOGICAL EXPLORATIONS IN NORTHEASTERN ARIZONA. By Alfred Vincent Kidder and Samuel J. Guernsey. Smithsonian Institution, Bureau of American Ethnology, Bulletins 64 and 65. Washington: Government Printing Office. 1919.

These well-printed and bound and elaborately illustrated reports are good types of the excellent work being done by the Bureau of Ethnology to put us in touch with the "Amerinds" of past and present. It is very unfortunate that schools and colleges make so little use of these government publications. Even looking over the cuts and diagrams is an educational process of no mean value. The pottery cylinders and vases in No. 64 are unusually interesting. In No. 65 the authors think (p.210) that they see "a gradual growth from the Basket-maker through the Slab-house to the Cliff-dweller." Each report has a table of contents, list of illustrations, bibliography and index.

T. P. B.

THE SECRET OF THE CROSS: A PLEA FOR A RE-PRESENTATION OF CHRISTIANITY. By Edmond Holmes, author of *What Is and What Might Be*, etc. New York: E. P. Dutton & Co. 1919. Pp. 170.

The sweet and refined author of this little book needs to go to school to the "rough" Christian who wrote the old hymn recently tabooed in some quarters—"There is a fountain filled with blood." A re-presentation of Christianity in fewer than two hundred small pages of leaded type would be a remarkable feat, especially if it succeeded in showing that the "secret of the cross" is but the most beautiful example of "self-sacrifice." Better the old Catholic doctrine of a ransom from Satan than the theological thin gruel that is being dished out in books like Mr. Holmes's. The book is sane and wholesome and all that sort of thing, but the mind of the author and his gentle kind seems to have no response to the terrible text: "Without the shedding of blood there is no remission of sin." In casting away the bath-water of savage crudeness let us not throw out the baby of tragic